

THE BEACON

News and information letter from FBC Alvarado, TX

Mark Your Calendar

- 7.2 Deacons Breakfast
Let Freedom Ring
Kids Music Camp Performance
RA & GA
Bake Auction Fundraiser
- 7.4 Independence Day
Church office closed
- 7.5 Ice Cream Fellowship
- 7.9 Home Bible Study
- 7.16 Home Bible Study
- 7.18-22 RA & GA Camp
- 7.23 Home Bible Study
- 7.30 Home Bible Study
- 8.6 Deacons Breakfast
Home Bible Study
- 8.12 Ladies Retreat
- 8.13 Committee Meetings
- 8.20 Back to School Bash
- 8.27 Business Meeting

Pastor's Ponderings

My how times flies when you're having fun! Just after you receive this newsletter, our country will observe its 241st birthday! Still young compared to many of the world's civilizations, the United States of America has made and continues to make quite an impact on world events and history.

In a few months we mark another important birthday – a 500 year old one! On Oct. 31, 1517 an OT professor and Catholic monk protested against the way the Catholic Church was “selling forgiveness” of sins and called for a public debate of his 95 points of contention called “theses.” He dramatically called for reform by nailing his “95 Theses” on the door of the castle church at Wittenberg, Germany. That day is considered to be the start of the Protestant Reformation, making a huge impact on Christianity, church life, and world history.

During July, we will study together the “Five Solas” or 5 Latin phrases or slogans that summarize our ancestor's basic theological beliefs: *sola scriptura* (by scripture alone), *solo Christo* (by Christ alone), *sola gratia* (by grace alone), *sola fide* (by faith alone), and *soli deo Gloria* (to God alone be glory).

This study will lead up to an intense concentration this Fall on the reading and study of God's Word, THE life-changing tool of our walk with Jesus. Wonderful days lie ahead for us as we mine the riches of God's matchless word together. If we truly want to be disciple-makers, it begins with allowing God's Word to flood our life, change our behavior, and direct our steps. Don't miss what God wants to do in your life in the coming months together.

Oh, and don't neglect to join us for our country's birthday celebration at our annual church-wide “Ice Cream Party” on Wed, July 5th at 6PM!

PROVIDING STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE CHRIST LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY

Church Staff: Wade Taylor / Senior Pastor • Scott Arthur / Associate Pastor ; Admin, Edu, & Children
Glen Turner / Associate Pastor ; Worship • Jacob Rowe / Associate Pastor ; Students

Sunday Morning Bible Study

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE

- 7/2 **Share Christ (Adults)**
People Prayed for Peter (Children)
- 7/9 **Encourage One Another (Adults)**
Paul Became a Missionary (Children)
- 7/16 **First Things First (Adults)**
Paul and Barnabas Told About Jesus (Children)
- 7/23 **A Fresh Start (Adults)**
Paul Taught Lydia About Jesus (Children)
- 7/30 **Objections Overruled (Adults)**
Paul and Silas in Prison (Children)
- 8/6 **The Gift of Grace (Adults)**
Paul Taught in Athens (Children)
- 8/13 **A Channel of Comfort (Adults)**
Paul Preached to an Angry Crowd (Children)
- 8/20 **A Passion to Share the Gospel (Adults)**
Paul Wrote a Letter to Timothy (Children)
- 8/27 **Right Here, Right Now (Adults)**
Peter Taught About Choices (Children)

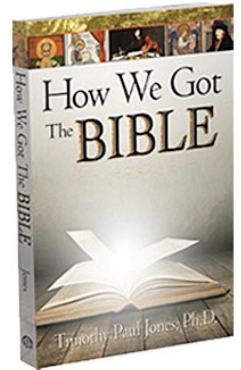
Wednesday Night Studies

MY FAVORITE BIBLE LESSON

A 5 week study brought to you by some of the gifted Bible Teachers in our Church,. Each week one of our special teachers will share one of his most beloved Bible Lessons. This is a great way to hear from some other leaders in our church and get to know more about how God is working in their lives. This series of personal lessons is open to all individuals on Wednesday nights and meets in the Church Library. The series began June, 22 and will continue through 7/26.

HOW WE GOT THE BIBLE

Have you ever wondered where the Bible came from? Who wrote the books of the Bible and how did they end up together? Perhaps you have been asked by a friend or coworker about books that were cut out of the Bible. Through the DVD study, *How We Got the Bible*, expert Dr. Timothy Paul Jones will guide you through all the important questions about the Holy Bible to show you why it can be trusted. Filled with dramatic stories and highly-visual charts and illustrations, this exciting Bible History will take you from the earliest clay tablets and papyrus copies to the first bound Bible and the various Bible translations that we use today! Begins 8/2



KIDS GET READY!
WAY OUT
WEDNESDAYS
ARE HERE!

2017 RA & GA Summer Camps

July 18–22, 2017

If you would like to sponsor a child for camp the cost is

\$230.00



Come check out the hard work our children have put in on the Children's Ministry Garden. The Garden is located behind the church.

Our goal is to grow food that we can share with others!

Why Does Corporate Worship Matter?

Congregational singing has been a staple of corporate worship in Protestant churches ever since the Reformation, when "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" was the latest hit worship song. But congregational singing is on the decline. There are a lot of people just standing there mute during worship. That's bad news, says Rick Eubanks, pastor of worship and students at Oak Grove Baptist Church in Burleson, Texas. When churches don't sing together, something vital is missing. "Gathering for worship is not about watching other people perform," he says. "And it's not about the music; it's about allowing people to connect with God."

Why is singing together important in our church? First of all, because scripture expects us to! Psalms 59:16: *"I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress."* Psalms 9:2: *"I will be glad and exult in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High."* Also because it's a powerful form of discipleship that marries truth in people's souls. A familiar melody helps us all remember the truth of what we sing.

Singing also strengthens the community of believers; it unites us as we lift our voices together to God! Ephesians 5:18-19: *"And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart..."* Notice that Paul writes that we should speak to one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. When we gather together in worship, we're not only singing to God, we're singing about God to one another. Through song, we can encourage and instruct our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. It also serves as a witness to non-Christians among us.

When you sing, you are growing deeper roots in God's Word. Colossians 3:16: *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God."* As we sing to God and each other, the word of Christ will dwell in us more richly! Often times, we think only of singing when we're happy and times are good, but singing strengthens you and helps you persevere when facing trials. Paul and Silas are unjustly imprisoned for the sake of the Gospel, and what do they do while they're in prison? Sing! (Acts 16:25) And even today, our persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ around the world have testified to the strengthening power of singing.

So let us all make a fresh commitment to live out this scripture singing together in corporate worship: *"I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also."* (1 Corinthians 14:15)

(Some quotes were taken from an article by Bob Smietana in the Winter 2017 edition of Facts & Trends magazine published by LifeWay.)

FBC Daycare

Summer has started off with a bang! Our Schoolers loved VBS, as always. We were also able to have VBS materials for our 3's and Pre-K, so they learned right along with all the other kids. Thank you Mr. Scott for providing those resources for us to use.

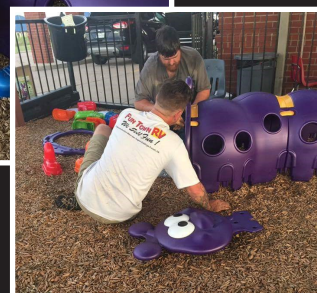
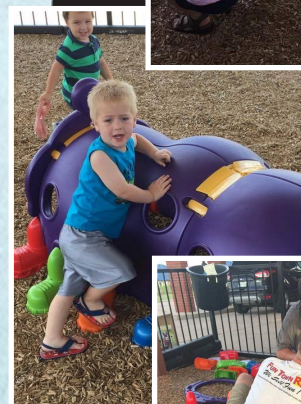
We have already gone on 2 field trips to Splash Station & Peter Piper Pizza. We usually have about 25 kiddos going, so it can be CrAzY! But, as always, Ms. Monica, Ms. Stephanie and Ms. Amanda have them well in hand.

This past weekend two of "our Dads" removed the old climbing structure on our smaller playground and assembled the two new pieces we received through our grant from Workforce last year. We are so thankful and so blessed to have such helpful, caring parents! We still need to have the shade covers and Ball toss installed on the Schoolers playground. Our goal is to have those completed this summer.

We are looking forward to many more fun filled weeks before school begins in August.

Blessed to serve,
Christie Pippin

Director- First Baptist Daycare



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Bible Study
Sundays at 9:15 a.m.
Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Worship
Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

www.fbcalvarado.org
Email: office@fbcalvarado.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/first
baptistchurchalvarado

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Women's Ministry

LADIES, SUMMER IS ALMOST OVER AND WE WANT TO GATHER BEFORE THE ROUTINE OF THE FALL BEGINS! YOU ARE INVITED TO A *ONE-DAY RETREAT* ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 12; 8:30 TO 2:30. WE WILL HAVE BREAK OUT SESSIONS IN AREAS OF DISCIPLESHIP, OUR CHURCH THEME FOR 2017, SUCH AS "Marks of a Godly Marriage" "Spiritually Mothering", "A Disciplined Disciple" . MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND INVITE A FRIEND! Cost. \$25

Student Ministry



Seek Week 2017 was an amazing experience once again! God spoke and moved in powerful ways amongst our young people and we were truly blessed to be apart of it! The youth of Alvarado FBC are fired up and passionate about God's Word and His mission to reach the world. This school year will be one of the best they have ever had!! It has been my honor to lead these young people as long as I have! I hope they have seen what it means to run toward Christ and to not be distracted by the world! Charly and I love you and God bless you!

Jacob Rowe, Associate Pastor of Students